



TIRF Bulletin

Volume 9, Issue 3

Winter 2006



The Road Safety Monitor: Drugs and Driving

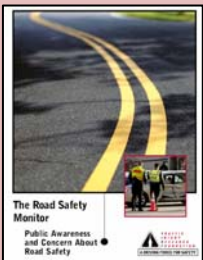
Herb Simpson, Deanna Singhal, Ward Vanlaar, and Dan Mayhew

TIRF recently released *The Road Safety Monitor: Drugs and Driving*. The report examines the attitudes and

opinions of Canadians regarding marijuana/hashish use and driving, and also outlines the prevalence and characteristics of users who drive after using these drugs.

The report found an estimated 520,000 Canadians have driven after using marijuana or hashish in the past year, along with an increase in the percentage of Canadians who admit to driving after using marijuana or hashish -- from 1.5% of Canadians in 2002 to 2.4% in 2005.

Almost 70% of those who reported driving after using marijuana or hashish also reported driving within 2 hours of drinking alcohol. This has important safety implications as combined use of cannabis and alcohol has been shown to increase the risk of collision.



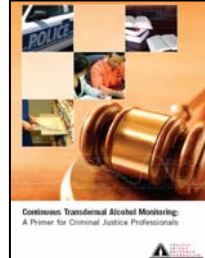
The Road Safety Monitor: Public Awareness and Concern About Road Safety

Deanna Singhal, Herb Simpson, Ward Vanlaar, and Daniel Mayhew

In August 2006, TIRF released *The Road Safety Monitor: Public Awareness and Concern About Road Safety*. The report examines public knowledge about road crashes, concern about it as a health and safety issue, support for action to deal with it, and the impact on driving practices.

Findings of the report showed that the public rates road safety as an important social issue and this seems to be reflected in their driving behaviour. However, most Canadians believe they are not part of the road safety problem; this poses a barrier to raising further awareness.

Data for both reports comes from TIRF's national opinion poll. Financial support for both reports is provided by Transport Canada, the Brewers of Canada, and Toyota Canada. Additional financial support comes from the Canada Safety Council. Download the reports at: <http://www.trafficinjuryresearch.com/projects/projectDetails.cfm?intProjectID=35>.



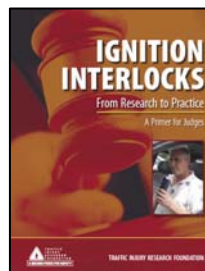
Continuous Transdermal Alcohol Monitoring: A Primer for Criminal Justice Professionals

Robyn Robertson, Ward Vanlaar, and Herb Simpson

The rapid proliferation of transdermal testing devices across the US has created a need among criminal justice professionals for comprehensive information. To address this, TIRF has recently created a primer that contains a comprehensive summary of relevant research on transdermal testing, program applications, and legal challenges. Also included in the primer is an overview of the only commercially available technology to date, Secure Continuous Remote Alcohol Monitoring (SCRAM).

This educational primer was made possible by a grant from Alcohol Monitoring Systems, Inc.

Electronic copies of the primer can be downloaded from: http://www.trafficinjuryresearch.com/publications/pub_details.cfm?intPubID=218.



Ignition Interlocks: From Research to Practice

Robyn D. Robertson, Ward G.M. Vanlaar, and Herb M. Simpson

In October, TIRF released a new primer for judges entitled, *Ignition Interlocks: From Research to Practice*.

The primer contains comprehensive information addressing the scientific, technical, and practical challenges and issues that are often raised regarding interlocks. It explains the technology behind interlocks, and also highlights compelling reasons to use interlocks, ways that offenders avoid interlock usage, and ways to overcome this.

A state-specific information booklet for Florida is included and plans are underway to create booklets for other states. Funding for the primer was provided by a grant from Alcohol Countermeasure Systems, Inc.

The report is available in hard copy format only. To obtain a copy, please e-mail Dean Morin at: deanm@trafficinjuryresearch.com.

TIRF Board Member Profile

John O'Brien, Vice-President, Human Resources and Communications, Technology and Solutions at BMO Financial Group in Toronto, joined TIRF's Board of Directors in November 2005. At BMO, John leads a team of HR professionals in the provision of human resource strategy, advice, counsel, and delivery. John has held a number of senior human resources roles at BMO.

Prior to joining BMO Financial Group in 1999, John was a Senior Consultant for Ernst & Young in their Human Resources consulting practice, where he worked primarily with entrepreneurial clients on a variety of strategic HR issues.

John holds a Bachelor of Arts in History and Political Science from the University of Toronto, and a Masters of Business Administration in Marketing and Strategic Policy from the Schulich School of Business at York University.

Staff Activity Update

2006 Traffic Records Forum: Robyn Robertson moderated "GJXDM Technical Overview" and "Sharing Transportation Data with the GJXDM -- Current Practice & Future Directions." Palm Desert, CA. July 30-Aug. 3, 2006.

Ontario Association of Chiefs of Police Meeting: Herb Simpson gave a presentation on, "Persisting and emerging issues in traffic safety." Cornwall, ON. Sept. 12, 2006.

Texas Annual Judicial Conference: Robyn Robertson gave a presentation entitled, "Alcohol Impaired Driving & Monitoring Technologies." Houston, TX. Sept. 12, 2006.

AAA Roundtable on Impaired Driving: Ward Vanlaar shared an overview of TIRF's recent activities regarding impaired driving. Washington, DC. Sept. 13, 2006.

Governor's DUI Task Force: Robyn Robertson presented "DWI System Improvements for Dealing with Hard Core Drinking Drivers." Nashville, TN. Sept. 15, 2006.

7th Annual Ignition Interlock Symposium: Robyn Robertson spoke about perspectives on judicial ignition interlock programs. Beaver Creek, CO. Oct. 23, 2006.

OCCID 16th Ontario Countermeasures Conference: Ward Vanlaar presented the "State of Knowledge of Substance Abuse." Toronto, ON. Nov. 13, 2006.

Road Safety Advisory Committee, Deputy Minister Steering Committee Meeting: Dan Mayhew delivered an invited presentation on "Improving Graduated Driver Licensing in Nova Scotia." Halifax, NS. Nov. 30, 2006.

I-95 Corridor Coalition, Incident Management 2006 Annual Meeting: Herb Simpson gave an invited presentation on, "Persistent Traffic Offenders." Norfolk, VA. Dec. 13, 2006.

TIRF Staff



Dean Morin Continues Duties at TIRF

TIRF is pleased to announce that Dean Morin will be continuing his duties as Manager, Marketing and Communications at TIRF. Dean previously assumed the role on an interim basis while Barbara Koppe was away on maternity leave. Prior to working for TIRF, Dean worked as a Marketing Communications Specialist for PCI Geomatics. Deans holds two Baccalaureate of Arts degrees -- one in communication, the other geography -- from the University of Ottawa. He also holds a Diploma of Public Relations from Algonquin College.

Barbara Koppe leaves TIRF

After six years of working at TIRF, Barbara Koppe has decided to pursue new endeavours. While working at TIRF, Barbara served as Manager, Marketing & Communications. She will be missed by her many colleagues and friends at the Foundation, who all wish her best of luck.

TIRF 2006 Fundraising Campaign



TIRF gratefully acknowledges support from the patrons and staff of the Liquor Control Board of Ontario (LCBO) whose charity coin box program raised \$7,060.33 for the Foundation.

New Donors

TIRF would like to welcome Aviva Canada Inc. and the Industrial Alliance as new silver level donors.

HOW TO ORDER

To order reports/brochures, inquire about donor/member privileges, or to be added to the *TIRF Bulletin* mailing list, contact:



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